

## Department Reports for October 2022

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### Stained Glass

**Ed Eich, Manager**

**Karin Williams, Assistant Mgr.**

The Rolling Acres Friday Glassers - Ed Eich and Gary Wright will be away for the summer, and Karin will be in the shop on the first Friday of each month. Formal classes will resume in September. Students may continue to work on their own, but are reminded to purchase all glass and supplies used for their projects.

The Brownwood Monday Glassers – classes will continue through the summer, with occasional days off for Karin and Pete. Our new storage cabinet has been constructed and will be moved into place soon. The mini-grinder has been repaired with a new bit, and will be back in service.

We are very fortunate to receive more donations of glass and supplies. They will be shared with both locations for the use of all students.

Each shop has various projects in all shapes, sizes and colors being created by our members.

Courses are scheduled so you can work at your own pace and level of skill.

There is always room for new artists to learn this craft, so stop in and see what we are making, and join us in the fun!

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### **Website**

**Hans Zassenhaus, Manager**

Nothing new to report this month. However, you can see newly added items on the left-hand column on the Members Lounge page. This month we have two new items:

- a. A document regarding various wood species
- b. A new VWC-produced video regarding the operation of the drill presses.

I encourage each member to “click around” our website as it is not possible to describe all of the features currently available. As with anything on the website, please send any suggestions for new features and/or improvements to the website to the webmaster as [woodshop@thevwc.org](mailto:woodshop@thevwc.org).



### **Administration – Front Office**

**Kathy Villani, Manager**

We began accepting 2022 dues on October 10, 2022. If you have not already paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. You may pay your dues at either shop and will also sign up for your 2023 monitor shifts at that time unless you are exempt. At this time, monitor shifts at Brownwood are filled through the middle of June, 2023. There are many open shifts at Rolling Acres during the first 6 months of 2023 so we need

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members to choose dates at the Rolling Acres shop for their 2023 monitor duty. We are one club and we need to keep both locations open so please assist in that effort.

Please note that in order to remain a member in good standing, your 2023 dues must be paid not later than December 30, 2023 (the shops are closed on December 31 for New Year's Eve). Anyone who has not paid their 2023 dues by December 30 will automatically be restricted from the shop until their dues have been paid. January 3, 2023, through January 31, 2023, is a grace period during which you may pay your dues and restore active membership. After January 31, 2023, anyone whose dues remain unpaid will be removed from VWC membership.

Our new front desk staff members (Leslie Bellini, Jim Bossman, Anne Diamond, and Tom McOlvin) will soon have completed their training and be working on their own at the front desk. They are excellent additions to our front desk team and we are very happy to have them join us. For any other VWC members who think they may like to work at the front desk, please feel free to visit with the staff member at the desk to see what we do and if you are interested, please leave your name and phone number with the staff member and you'll be contacted about training.



### Member Merchandise

**Steve Eikenberry**

Did you know we sell member merchandise at both shops? It's available from sellers who have a key and understand how to complete a sale. While we mostly carry supplies for turners, members can also utilize our merchandise for non-lathe projects.

In addition to stocking turner supplies like gouges, disc sandpaper for inertia sanders, pen kits, bottle stopper kits, etc, we also carry many gift ideas that non-turners can also utilize. Check out our inventory by logging

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onto the VWC website, choose GROUPS link at the top, then at the bottom of that link you'll see MERCHANDISE...click on it and you'll see all we stock. If you have an idea and not sure how to accomplish it, see or call me (Steve) at 260.437.9560.

Steve Eikenberry  
Merchandise Manager

Mike Gilman  
Asst Manager (Brownwood)



### Education

**Deb Larouere**

Classes are added (and fill quickly) all the time, depending on the availability of our limited volunteer Instructors. The best way to find the latest info is to watch the website. Login to <http://www.thevwc.org> website and hover over the green Education menu tab. Click on Available Classes to find open seats. The page is time-stamped. Keep in mind that these update once each evening and you might have to 'refresh' your page to get the latest. More volunteers would mean more options to learn. Help us to find these skilled Members.

If you have a few hours, we have a few students who need your help. Many of our newer members are also new to woodworking. Better not to let them play unguided in the sawdust. We (and our equipment) are all happier when our members are more knowledgeable and have made friends with more experienced members who can help them get off to a good start.

Watch for Winter Class schedule and sign-up information coming soon. Waiting for volunteer Instructors and assistants. Expecting that classes will continue to be added through 2023 as volunteers finalize calendars.

Skilled Members, you don't need to teach a 'class'. There are lots of ways to share the skills that you have learned. We can also use support

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staff in a variety of areas. Let's Talk! Send email to Debbie at [education@thevwc.net](mailto:education@thevwc.net).

The pay is terrible, but the pay-off is great!



### **IT (Information Technology)**

**Bill Pappas**

The Woodworking Machine Certification management application is complete and each shop should start actively using the tablet and printouts to allow access to locked equipment.

Dick Hartley is now focused on developing an Online Monitor Substitution application to facilitate members needing to swap monitor duties.

Front desk computers were replaced at Rolling Acres to facilitate the furniture upgrade project in the front office.

The Rolling Acres President computer was replaced using the old Frontdesk computer. The Old Frontdesk computer is much faster than the old President computer which gets quite a bit of usage by various members.

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### **Lumber**

**Stephen Yovan, Manager**

The lumber department has recently acquired a large quantity of cherry, walnut and soft maple ( aka ambrosia ) that is 2 1/2 to 4 inches thick depending on the wood species.

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We have over 200 board feet of cherry 4 inches thick 11 inches wide and 5 feet long selling for \$7.25 a board foot.

We have 44 board feet of ambrosia 4 inches thick 13 inches wide and 5 feet long selling for \$7.25 a board foot.

We also have over 300 board feet of walnut 2 1/2 inches thick 20 inches wide and 8 feet long selling for \$12 a board foot.

Most of this Lumber currently resides at the Brownwood location but can be transferred to rolling acres based upon demand.

In addition, we have about 50 board feet of cherry shorts at each location selling for about half price.



### **Toys**

**Conway Williams, Manager**

Since our last report, the Elves and Painters continue to work hard to produce the toys to support our client's 2022 requirements.

On the shipping side, in October we made six shipments of 1,001 toys with a donation value of \$6,854. Thus far in November we have already made four shipments of 980 toys with a donation value of \$7,504. This brings our 2022 shipping totals to 8,887 toys with a donation value of \$60,821. We are working on four more shipments for November which will have another 297 toys and an additional donation value of \$3,086.

As we look at the production side of the ledger, we were able to produce 792 toys for October, bringing our total produced so far this year to 8,932 toys.

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Looking at our Toys on the Square activities we have has two successful outings at Brownwood Paddock Square in October raising \$557.00 and November another \$489. We will be moving to Lake Sumter on Wednesday November 15th. Come out and support your Toy Team.

Looking ahead to next year we have already gotten approval for 2023 Toys on the Square.

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>DATE 2023</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>LSL</b>	
<b>February</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>SS</b>	
<b>March</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>SS</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>SS</b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>BWD</b>	<b>OFF Jun, Jul, Aug</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>BWD</b>	
<b>October</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>BWD</b>	
<b>November</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>BWD</b>	
<b>December</b>	<b>6<sup>h</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>LSL</b>	



**John Herega**

## Turners

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**THE TURNERS MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER ARE CANCELED.** The next turners meeting will be held on January 17, 2023 at Brownwood in the meeting room.

***DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SHARPEN ANY TOOLS UNLESS YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED IN THE CORRECT METHOD(S)! SEEK AN INSTRUCTOR TO LEARN THE PROPER METHODS FOR SHARPENING EACH OF THE TURNING TOOLS.***

The Jet lathe purchased last year has not been able to exceed 1020RPM, this has been rectified and is now capable of the full range of rpm. In addition we have purchased another top of the line Jet lathe. The lathe that it replaced, has been stripped of the legs, motor, controls and banjo it's mounted on the back side of the lathe accessory cabinet, to be used for lathe projects glue-ups the current coles jaw chucks will be replaced the current ones will then be used exclusively for gluing and finishing The replacement chuck/jaws are to be used for turning purposes ONLY! No gluing, except for minor crack filling/filling will be allowed to be done on lathes this includes any application of finish that is not quick drying, 5 minutes or less, i.e. Friction polish, CA glue etc.

**SHOW AND TELL**



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To share pictures of your woodworking projects submit them to the newsletter or post them on the VWC web site.

### **APPARELL**

VWC apparel, (shirts and caps) are available at Custom Apparel  
3451 Wedgewood Lane, Buffalo Ridge Plaza, Rt. 466.



### **Safety**

**Steve Eikenberry**

The VWC Safety Department wishes to remind members of the following personal safety measures we all need to practice:

1. With cooler weather, long sleeves are more popular. Long sleeves are discouraged because they can become entangled in machinery, causing severe injuries. If you choose to wear long sleeves, they must be tight fitting and be above the wrist...never below the wrist.
2. Jewelry is discouraged, and if worn must not be loose or dangle.
3. Long hair can also become entangled in machinery...long hair must be contained in a tight pony tail or worn above the shoulders.
4. Face shields are available throughout both shops...not just at the lathes. If you are performing a task that has the possibility of debris hitting your face or you feel uncomfortable with your face exposed, seek out a face shield. Also, a reminder face shields are mandatory for lathe turning using any type of gouge...this goes for pens also. Sanding at low speeds and drilling at low speeds may be done without a face shield if desired.

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We are always looking for interested members who wish to help keep out shops safe. You do not need a background in safety...we will train you. Safety members work 4-hour shifts, and can attain exemption from monitor duty if enough shifts are worked. Interested? Contact Steve Eikenberry at 260.437.9560 (voice or text) or John Herega [732.546.6946](tel:732.546.6946) (voice or text).

We meet monthly on the second Monday of each month at 1 PM in the Brownwood classroom. Please join us!



### **Carvers**

#### **Pete Bankowski**

Since the last report we have been very active and have many new carvers at BW.

During the last couple of months we have averaged a new carver each week. We now greet the people going through orientation each week to introduce them to the opportunity to carve.

Steve Mendelshon did a video presentation of "knife sharpening". It is available on the web site. It shows the proper way and how to be safe. Sharp carving tools are very important and need to be done on our equipment.

Ron Gaudette was back for a couple of months to assist and train. Dennis Drazkowski returned in early October and teaching a new class. The classes are available with all other woodworking classes.

We welcome experienced, as well as, new carvers at both shops. The usual carving day at RA is Monday and Wednesday. BW is Tuesday and Thursday.

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If you are interested, we can use help mentoring new carvers. See Steve, Dennis, or Bill McGinnis for information.

We have a good library for ideas and "how to" information both locations. There are 16 work stations at each location.

If you would like to try wood burning or power carving come see us.

Stained glass has classes on Monday at BW and Friday at RA so the room is not available for carving at that time.

Come and visit us and observe carving in action. Talk to us anytime. We can be interrupted while we carve so do not hesitate to get acquainted with us.



### **Certification & Monitor Training**

**Dick Besler**

Any questions contact Dick Besler 352-751-4745



### **Urn Project**

**Alvin Corenblum**

**Scott Herlick**

Nothing new to report this month.

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### Vice President

**Rik Peirce**

#### Pen Making

Watch the email notices for the next pen making events. Thank you, all those members, for turning at meetings and at home.

Looking for donations of spare pen parts for any style of pen are welcome.



### Shop

### Administration/Maintenance

**Brad Primeau**

**Dave Adamovich**

### OVERVIEW

Greetings from your Blue and Yellow Badge Maintenance team! The number of members using both shops is slowly increasing. Our brothers and sisters from the North are returning as cooler weather creeps in. Speaking of the North there has been a noticeable uptick of members filling Santa's wish lists from their families. Lathe work, laser etchings, CNC carvings, cutting boards you name it, VHC elf's are busy making presents so Santa can leave them to their families. The maintenance team always looks forward to the return of Blue and Yellow volunteers from the North and the additional help they provide is ALWAYS APPRECIATED!

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Many of you have read the recent email the Maintenance Department sent out asking for Blue and Yellow Badge volunteers. If you are interested in helping please contact one of the POCs listed in the email. Without volunteers shop operations would be severely impacted. There are only a few cases where a repair or modification cannot be made by someone on the team. If someone or several members can't 'getter done' one of them usually knows where they go to get something repaired or another VHC member who might know where to get it repaired.

The Blue's cannot be more appreciated for the work they do! It's their early morning attention to detail and coordination with the Monitors that 'kick starts' the shops into full operation. They report for duty, perform a myriad of tasks and depart or in some cases work on their projects or 'hang' with a Yellow badge to learn what they do. Several have "transitioned" to the Yellow side and are providing Blue and Yellow support functions as needed.

Several months ago Dan Botner agreed to be the Rolling Acres (RA) Maintenance Department's Blue Badge Procedures Coordinator. It's a LONG title for someone who has volunteered to standardize and work with the BBs on the way they should perform a LONG list of tasks. Dan has taken on a large task and needs the club's support to make it happen.

### HOUSE CLEANING

It's the end of the year and time for both shops to cleaned up or out in some cases. Once a year except for the time the shops were closed for COVID, the shops are blown down – dust is blown off ductwork, tops of cabinetry and other surfaces. After that happens, usually the next day, the equipment, work and office spaces, Crib, clamps, mats etc., and other spaces are vacuumed, wiped or washed down and small repairs are made if time allows. At the end of the day, floors are wet-mopped. In order to do the best job possible all members please note the following:

**PRIOR TO BLOW DOWN ALL PROJECTS OR LUMBER PLACED ALONG THE WALLS, UNDER OR ON TOP OF ASSEMBLY BENCHES, STORED SHEET GOODS MUST BE REMOVED. IF MATERIALS ARE NOT REMOVED, THEY WILL BE MARKED FOR RESALE OR PLACED IN THE REUSE BOXES.**

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This year's cleanup dates are:

Brownwood – Blow down, November 21 (Monday COB)  
Cleaning, November 22 (Tuesday, Shop Closed)

Rolling Acres – Blow down, December 16 (Friday COB)  
Cleaning, December 17 (Saturday, Shop Closed)

### **REALLY??**

Occasionally tools are broken or when a member first uses a tool something is broken is to be expected. The annual membership fee covers the cost of replacing or repairing these things. What is not covered is when a tool is intentionally stolen! A Dremel driver is missing from the RA tool Crib. The checkout box still has all the attachments but the Dremel driver is gone. Of course there is no indication that the last person who used it, which was several weeks ago, had anything to do with it missing. It was discovered by one of the Crib monitors checking out/inspecting the tool boxes for any discrepancies. It's hard to misplace a major component or inadvertently put it in a tool bag. Club dues will be used to purchase another one but having to replace a tool that should last for several years before it is necessary is a waste of club resources!

Another problem that happens in both shops is having something brought back to the Crib or putting it back on the clamp rack broken and/or breaking something on a machine or finding one with a problem WITHOUT telling anyone. Mistakes do happen but not letting someone know creates a problem for the next person who wants to use it, delays part ordering because it has to be 'discovered' by someone else before it can be ordered and it's just inconsiderate to other members.

### **RED LIGHT DISTRICT**

What! Having a red light district isn't the problem it's members leaving equipment running and walking away with the red safety light still lit showing the machine is operating. Maybe the noise at Brownwood stops a person from hearing the machine run but being able to hear something run is not part of following the clubs shutdown procedures. Everyone needs to

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make sure the machine is off, guards are in place and it is PUT BACK in the standard configuration. But some may say it wasn't that way when I started to use it or I found it that way. Oh well, keeping things together is the safe way to leave a machine and makes it easier to know when something is missing, broken or out of calibration.

### **BANDSAW MUSIC**

To some it might be music that is the sound of a bandsaw cutting through a piece of wood because the user selected the correct blade size, used the correct pushing pressure and TURNING THE SAW OFF BEFORE THE BLADE IS BACKED OUT OF A CUT. Yes, shutting the saw off before backing it out of a cut is the VWC bandsaw procedure to follow. Leaving the saw running while backing out of a cut may be something that is done in other or home shops BUT it is not a sVWC procedure. One of the most frequent reasons a blade breaks is because of backing the blade out without shutting it off. So, a member can make bandsaw music or listen to @%&^\*(^\*^\$#\$%\*, which is the music you will hear from a maintenance person who has to change a broken blade.

### **CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO "SHOP-LI-NESS"**

Time to be blunt. It's a member's responsibility to clean their work space, clean an item that has been checked out of the Crib or clean the area behind equipment such as the miter saws. It is not the monitors job, although they do it, to clean up after a member who doesn't feel they have to do it. It's every members shop not just a members shop. Let's keep it the best club dollar for dollar that money can pay for.



**Voytek Kulesza**

### **Special Projects**

We have completed 77 projects in October and received donation of \$2,057.08



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7 Slant Wedges was sold for \$105.00 and  
183 Samba Card Holders for a donation of \$1,830.00  
Total donation for October closed at \$3,992.08  
YTD :  
To date total Special Projects donation \$37780.29  
Thanks for your support



### Woodworking Technology

**Lowell Sundermann**

At Tuesday's general membership meeting, at the request of management, we gave a presentation of some of the projects and capabilities floating around our department. Sorry if you missed it. So I thought we would do something different this month, especially with all the holidays arriving soon.

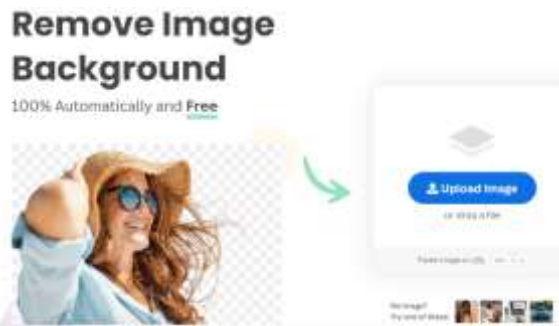
Valerie Pfundstein, a team member, came upon an app that not only is a huge time saver for those doing laser photo editing, but can also be a neat tool for your holiday photos, Christmas letter, and so much more.

It is a photo background remover!

Here is how it works:

Load [www.remove.bg](http://www.remove.bg) (bg = background)

Notice, but be careful with the word Free



1. Find a fav photo, e.g. my great grandson, and upload it
2. Select a bg from many choices. Notice Weston is examining wood.
3. Press edit to remove bg



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Easy Peasy

Hope it works for you, and that you and your family enjoy the holidays.



### **President**

**John K. Scott**

This is our most recent membership numbers.

Currently active members – 1453 (lower than last month due to resignations and 3 Tuesdays without certifications. There will be 5 more new members joining this week.)

Inactive members – 54 year-to-date

Total number who paid 2022 dues – 1469

Total number who paid 2023 dues up to 11/7/22 – 737

Please recall that we based our 2023 budget on 1700 members. It does appear that we should have 1600 members by Jan or so and should pick up another 100 through the winter spring. So the numbers are looking good budget wise.

I want to remind everyone that our December meeting will be held at the Club's Christmas party on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Savannah Rec Ctr. The doors will open at 5pm with entertainment and dinner served. We have

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sold 206 tickets so far so have room for more. We will announce the candidates for our officers next year and do the Christmas raffle. Come on out and enjoy. Also be advised that due to the party starting at 5pm we will be closing the shops at 3pm vice 4 to facilitate our folks getting things set up etc.

As you know we have a lot of new members joining etc. and many with little to no experience with woodworking. Our training program is working well and the "Basic Wood Shelf" course has and is quite popular. I thank all who have lent a hand in our training efforts. In addition, we have introduced a new series of videos called "Equipment Operation." The first video of this planned series has been completed and uploaded on our website. If you login to our website and click on the "Members Lounge" on the left side of the page at the top of the list you will see the link that will take you to the new videos. These videos are designed to give you a good understanding of what the machine can do and ways you can use it. Stay tuned as more of these are planned.

At our recent membership meeting, Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at Laurel Manor, we had another great "Show and Tell" session. Our Technology group spent a fair amount of time and effort showing what the machines they use can do and the results they get. It never ceases to amaze me the products and quality of these products that are membership produces.